

Message Text

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22

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 /093 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5562

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 303

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY PRIORITY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, WA

SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON NAMIBIA

1. ALTHOUGH INITIAL SPEAKERS IN JANUARY 27 SC DEBATE ON NAMIBIA RESTRAINED THEMSELVES FROM BECOMING INVOLVED IN QUESTION OF ANGOLA, QUESTION WAS AMPLIFIED FULLY DURING AFTERNOON SESSION BY SOUTH AFRICAN PERMREP BOTHA, HAVING BEEN TRIGGERED BY MAURITIUS (SEPTTEL). BOTHA'S REMARKS PROMPTED ANGRY RESPONSES FROM SOVIETS, TANZANIA, AND SWAPO.

2. COMPLEXION OF NAMIBIA DEBATE NOW HAS BEEN ALTERED CONSIDERABLY, INTO PREDICTED CHANNEL OF DISCUSSION OF ANGOLA. IN COMMENTING ON SOUTH AFRICAN STATEMENT WHICH, FROM OUR OPTIC, DID OFFER SOME PROMISE. TANZANIA WAS VIEWED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS AND
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OTHERS NOT ONLY IN CAPACITY AS TANZANIAN REP BUT ALSO AS SC

PRESIDENT. ACCORDINGLY, SALIM'S COMPLETE DISMISSAL OF BOTH A STATEMENT MUST BE INTERPRETED AS POSSESSING A SPECIAL WEIGHT. AS SEEN IN USUN 306, WHICH COVERS ALSO OTHER DEBATE STATEMENTS, SALIM SET FORTH QUITE CLEARLY THE ARGUMENT THAT WESTERN DEMARCHES HAD FAILED, THAT THE METHODS PRESCRIBED BY THOSE WHO HAD EXERCISED THE TRIPLE VETO IN LAST NAMIBIA DEBATE ALSO HAD FAILED, AND THAT THE ONLY WAY TO MOVE SOUTH AFRICA ON NAMIBIA WAS TO SUPPORT WHAT THE AFRICANS CURRENTLY ARE CALLING FOR, I.E., THE LATEST "WORKING PAPER" WHICH, INTER ALIA, OPENS THE DOOR TO CHAPTER VII SANCTIONS. SALIM APPEALED TO WESTERN MEMBERS OF COUNCIL TO JOIN OTHERS IN AGREEING TO THIS "LESS VIOLENT " SOLUTION.

3. WE, THE FRENCH, AND, TO A LESSER DEGREE, THE BRITISH, CAME AWAY FROM TODAY'S DEBATE FAIRLY SKEPTICAL OVER POSSIBILITIES OF REVERSING THE AFRICANS' WISH TO INCLUDE LANGUAGE OF OP PARA 4 OF CURRENT DRAFT. MUST DEPENDS ON TENOR OF DEBATE TOMORROW, AND WE ALSO SHOULD HAVE A CLEARER IDEA FOLLOWING OUR INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS WITH SALIM, 11:30 A.M. JANUARY 28.

4. ANOTHER ELEMENT FOR CONSIDERATION, OF COURSE, IS HOW DEEPLY WE WISH TO BECOME INVOLVED IN OUR OWN STATEMENT, WHICH WE EXPECT TO DELIVER THURSDAY, CONCERNING ANGOLA. AGAIN, THIS MAY WELL DEPEND UPON THE TENOR OF TOMORROW'S SPEAKERS AT SESSION SCHEDULED FOR AFTERNOON: ROMANIA, JAMAICA, TUNISIA, CHINA, JAPAN, BURUNDI, FRANCE, AND LIBERIA. SHERER

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